

What is claimed is:

1. An airbag device for protecting an occupant, comprising;

an airbag including a left half airbag to be inflated at a left side of the occupant and having a distal end and a base portion, and a right half airbag to be inflated at a right side of the occupant and having a distal end and a base portion, said distal ends of the left and right half airbags being separated from each other to form a space therebetween facing the occupant when the airbag is inflated, said left and right half airbags having primary folded portions in which each of the left and right half airbags is folded laterally and partly overlapped between the distal end and the base portion to have an elongated vertical form, and secondary folded portions in which the elongated vertical form in each of the left and right half airbags is folded to reduce an elongated distance thereof to form a final folded state, and
an inflator for inflating the airbag.

2. An airbag device according to claim 1, wherein said primary folded portions have a left rolled up portion at the half airbag rolled up clockwise viewed from above, and a right rolled up portion at the right half airbag rolled up counterclockwise viewed from above.

3. An airbag device according to claim 1, wherein said primary folded portions have portions folded in bellows.

4. An airbag device according to claim 1, wherein said primary folded portions have top and bottom halves to be folded separately to form the secondary folded portions, respectively.

5. An airbag device according to claim 4, wherein said primary folded portions have the top halves larger than the bottom halves.

5 6. An airbag according to claim 1, wherein said base portions of the left and right half airbags are connected together, said inflator inflating the left and right half airbag.

7. An airbag device according claim 1, wherein said left and
10 right half airbags have opposing surfaces connected with each other with connecting portions at midsections thereof in a direction that the airbag is inflated.

8. An airbag device according to claim 7, wherein said left and
15 right half airbags have distal portions from the connecting portions to the distal ends thereof folded in opposite directions along first fold lines extending along the connecting portions in a vertical direction, middle portions between the first fold lines and second fold lines situated between the first fold lines
20 and the base portions of the left and right half airbags, said middle portions being folded along third fold lines extending in a middle of the middle portions in the vertical direction such that the third fold lines move away from each other, said distal and middle portions being overlapped and rolled, and base sides
25 between the second fold lines and the base portions folded into bellows.

9. An airbag according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said left half airbag and said right half airbag includes an inclined
30 upper portion.

10. An airbag according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said
left half airbag and said right half airbag includes a portion
having a thickness gradually decreasing upwardly when the left
5 half airbag and the right half airbag are inflated.

11. An airbag according to claim 1, wherein said distal ends of
the left half airbag and the right half airbag are separated by a
distance of 150 - 350 mm when the left half airbag and the right
10 half airbag are deployed.